**Educational Software Evaluation Form**

Date: 3/1/08 Evaluation completed by: Shannon Seibert

1. Name of software: Edmark Reading Program

Publisher: Riverdeep Cost: $475

2. Hardware requirements:

Version: 1

Platform: Yes Mac Yes Windows

Media: Yes CD-ROM \_\_ DVD

Also Needs: \_\_ Internet \_\_ Microphone \_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Content area for which the software is designed: Reading using whole-word approach sight word recognition

Material is presented impartially and without bias or distortion: XYes \_\_\_No

Compared to the standards from: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Meets these standards: (Mark only one)

\_\_\_Inadequately \_\_\_Minimally XAppropriately \_\_\_Exceeds Them

Content is current. \_\_No XSome \_\_Mostly \_\_Yes

Content is thorough. \_\_No \_\_Some XMostly \_\_Yes

Content is age appropriate. \_\_No \_\_Some XMostly \_\_Yes

Content is reliable. \_\_No \_\_Some XMostly \_\_Yes

Content is clear. \_\_No \_\_Some XMostly \_\_Yes

Content is fully referenced. \_\_No XSome \_\_Mostly \_\_Yes

4. Type of knowledge program addresses or promotes: memorization, discovery, communication

higher-order thinking; socialization; communication; organization…)

5. Process(es) and types of instruction promoted or provided: Animated sight word reading with rewards, letter and shape recognition

(Methods the software uses to engage the learner, e.g. discovery, drill and practice, simulation, multimedia, multi-sensory support, guided practice, game, Internet, reference, exploration, demonstration and presentation, testing, tutorial, tool, accessibility, bilingual, authoring system, creative activity, or others)

6. Ease of use (clear instructions, installation), independence for students, and interface: Easy to use-very clear to students with a touch screen available

* Technical quality

Installation and Setup: \_\_Difficult \_\_Time consuming XSimple

Sound is: \_\_Essential XHigh quality \_\_Supplemental

Videos/animations: \_\_Run jerkily XRun smoothly \_\_Are essential \_\_Not essential

Colors: \_\_\_\_\_very colorful and cheerful Printing: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Saving of students’ work: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Uncluttered, realistic graphics: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Consistent operation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* Teacher support

Documentation: XBinder XBooklet \_\_Included on media \_\_on Internet

* Instruction manual has:

X Objectives \_\_\_\_Lesson plans XSample screens

X Resource information \_\_\_\_Reproducible student pages

X Student booklets

\_\_\_\_Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Classroom

* Grades/ability levels—Circle the range

PK K 1 2 3 can be used with higher grades depending on the spec ed student

* Readability level—Circle one

Easier Consistent with grade

* Vocabulary—Circle one

Appropriate

* Ability to engage students—Circle one

Good

* Expanding complexity or different levels of difficulty

X Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_No

* Student grouping—Check:

X Individuals \_\_\_\_\_\_Groups of 3 or 4

X Pairs \_\_\_\_\_\_Whole group

7. Assessment:

Has pretest.XYes \_\_No

Has posttest. XYes \_\_No

Has record keeping by student. XYes \_\_No

Has record keeping by group.XYes \_\_No

Has assessment guidelines. XYes \_\_No

8. Degree of open-endedness and flexibility: Yes it can be adjusted to each student’s needs

9. Degree of active learning on the part of student (vs. passive learning):

The teacher works with the student, ideally, one-on-one. Can also work with 2-3 students.

10. Opportunities for transfer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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11. Diversity: \_Spanish version

* Mixed gender and role equity: yes
* People of diverse cultures: ELL students
* Diverse family styles: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

12. Recommendations: It is easy to use and good for special education students. Animation helps keep students’ attention.

Adapted from National Educational Technology Standards (NETS) and Belson S. I., 2003